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CLERK SUPREME COURT

AARON SCHLESINGER
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER #50095
COCHISE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT, DIVISION III
P.O. DRAWER CG
BISBEE, ARIZONA, 85603
(520) 432-8542

RE: Pending Rule Change Petition R-05-0037

I respectfully request that the Supreme Court require the presence of a certified court reporter in all civil, juvenile and criminal evidentiary proceedings in Superior Court. While I recognize the KTR Committee's attempt to address the lack of court reporters in geographically remote counties and the reality of FTR in courts with a high volume of hearings and low volume of transcript requests, this rule change is overly broad, hastily written and disingenuous.

Appendix D states, "Court reporters must be used to make the official record in capital case proceedings." And yet the proposed language in Rule 31.2B refers to "all authorized transcribers" and Rule 31.8B(3) refers to "all recorded proceedings." These rules govern death penalty cases, and yet they don't refer exclusively to court reporters.

There also appears to be a lack of specificity in defining the roles and responsibilities of whomever makes the electronic recording of a proceeding, the transcript coordinator and the contracted transcriber. Traditionally the court reporter fills all three of these roles and is ultimately responsible for producing a transcript. This rule change places the ultimate responsibility of producing a transcript on no single person.

This rule change makes no reference to voice writers, or how they can be used in the court system.

Ultimately, there is no substitute for the human ear in making an accurate record of a court proceeding. All litigants that appear in Superior Court should have the right to request a court reporter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Aaron Schly".